

# **GULF ISLANDS NATIONAL SEASHORE**

## **PUBLIC USE COUNTING AND REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS**

Following are detailed instructions for collecting and reporting data to be entered on Form 10-157, Revised, Monthly Public Use Report by Gulf Island National Seashore. These instructions are effective the date of issuance and will continue in effect unless changed by amendment or by memorandum from the Socio-Economic Studies Division to the superintendent approving a requested change.

Each item below describes the procedures to be followed in collecting public use data and summarizing the various elements of those data for entry on the corresponding line on the 10-157, Monthly Public Use Report.

### **Recreation Visits**

#### **Florida Unit**

Traffic counters are installed at the following locations:

1. An inductive loop counter is placed across the entrance lane to Fort Pickens. The traffic count is reduced for Non-reportable vehicles (12 per day) and buses. The reduced vehicle count is multiplied by the persons-per-vehicle multiplier (PPV) or 2.7 September through April and 3.1 May through August.
2. Pneumatic tube counters are located across the eastbound and westbound lanes on State Highway 399, on Santa Rosa Island. The traffic counters are summed and reduced for Non-reportable vehicles (12 per day), buses, and Non-recreation vehicles (currently 514 per month). The reduced vehicle count is multiplied by the seasonal PPV multiplier.
3. A pneumatic tube counter is located across the entrance lane to Perdido Key (Johnson Beach). The vehicle count is reduced for buses. The reduced vehicle count is multiplied by the seasonal PPV multiplier.
4. A pneumatic tube counter is located across the entrance lane to the Visitor Center, at Naval Live Oaks. The vehicle count is reduced for Non-reportable vehicles (20 per day) and buses. The reduced vehicle count is multiplied by the seasonal PPV multiplier. A pneumatic tube counter is located across the exit lane, at the Youth Group Campground Road, northwest of the Visitor Center. The vehicle count is multiplied by the seasonal PPV multiplier.
5. A pneumatic tube counter is located at Okaloosa across the entrance lane of the picnic area. The vehicle count is multiplied by the seasonal PPV multiplier.
6. An estimated number of vehicles at the picnic area at Naval Live Oaks. The vehicle count is multiplied by the seasonal PPV multiplier.
7. The actual count of visitors at Fort Barrancas and Advanced Redoubt.
8. Park staff estimates the number of boats. The boats are multiplied by the persons-per-boat multiplier of four (4).
9. Bus visitors.
  - A. The actual count of bus visitors at Fort Pickens.
  - B. The number of buses at Naval Live Oaks, Santa Rosa, and Perdido key is multiplied by the persons-per-bus multiplier of 42.

## **Mississippi Unit**

10. Traffic counters are installed at the following locations:

- A. An inductive loop counter is placed across the entrance lane, in park boundaries, on Hanley Road. The vehicle count is multiplied by the PPV multiplier of 3.5.
- B. An inductive loop counter is placed across the entrance lane, on Park Road, south of U.S. Highway 90. The traffic count is reduced for Non-recreation vehicles (8,800 per month) and buses. The reduced vehicle count is multiplied by the PPV multiplier of 3.5.

11. The actual count of visitors on tour boats as reported by the tour boat concessionaire.

12. The actual count of private boats as reported by park personnel. The number of private boats are multiplied by the persons-per-boat multiplier of 4.4.

13. The actual number of buses. The number of buses is multiplied by the persons-per-bus multiplier of 40.

### **Non-recreation Visits**

## **Florida Unit**

A fixed vehicle count of 514 per month as determined by park personnel/statistical office. The vehicle count is multiplied by the PPV multiplier of 2.0.

## **Mississippi Unit**

1. A fixed vehicle count of 8,800 per month is multiplied by the PPV multiplier of 1.

2. The number of Non-recreation boats as reported by park personnel is multiplied by the persons-per-boat multiplier of 3.

### **Recreation Visitor Hours**

Recreation visitor hours are the sum of the subtotals of each of the locations listed in Table 1 and Table 2. Each subtotal is the results of multiplying the number of visitors associated with that location by its length-of-stay multiplier.

**Table 1**  
**Average Length-of-Stay Multipliers by Location (Florida Unit)**

| LOCATION                         | AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY MULTIPLIERS |                             |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                  | SUMMER<br>May - August             | WINTER<br>September - April |
| Fort Pickens                     | 3                                  | 1                           |
| Naval Live Oaks (Picnic Area)    | 3                                  | 1                           |
| Perdido Key                      | 3                                  | 1                           |
| Santa Rosa Island                | 3                                  | 1                           |
| Okaloosa                         | 3                                  | 1                           |
| Youth Group Road                 | 2                                  |                             |
| Fort Barrancas                   | 1                                  |                             |
| Advanced Redoubt                 | 1                                  |                             |
| Visitor Center (Naval Live Oaks) | .5                                 |                             |
| Overnight Stays                  | 24 Per Overnight                   |                             |

**Table 2**  
**Average Length-of-Stay Multipliers by Location (Mississippi Unit)**

| LOCATION                           | AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY MULTIPLIERS |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Day Use - Davis Bayou              | 3                                  |
| Day Use - Ship Island, Horn Island | 5                                  |
| Overnight Stays                    | 18 Hours Per Overnight             |

## Non-recreation Visitor Hours

### Florida Unit

A fixed number of Non-recreation visits (1028) is multiplied by 0.5 hour.

### Mississippi Unit

1. A fixed number of Non-recreation visits (8,800) is multiplied by 0.16 hour.
2. The number of overnight stays is multiplied by 18 hours.

## Overnight Stays

### Florida Unit

NPS Campgrounds - Fort Pickens Campground

The number of tent/RV campers is multiplied by the number of nights stayed, as obtained from camping permits.

NPS Miscellaneous - Fort Pickens Group Campground, Youth Group Campground, and Perdido Key

The number of overnight stays at group camping areas.

### Mississippi Unit

NPS Campgrounds - Davis Bayou

The number of tents and RV's sites occupied is multiplied by the PPV multiplier of 3.5.

NPS Miscellaneous - East Ship, Horn, and Petit Bois Islands

The actual number of boat visitors is multiplied by the number of nights stayed.

NPS Backcountry - East Ship, Horn, and Petit Bois Islands

The actual number of campers staying on the islands multiplied by the number

## Special Use Data

- Line a. Fort Pickens vehicles
- Line b. Perdido Key vehicles
- Line c. Santa Rosa recreation vehicles
- Line d. Santa Rosa Non-recreation vehicles
- Line e. Okaloosa vehicles
- Line f. Naval Live Oaks V.C./picnic/hiking area vehicles
- Line g. Barrancas/Redoubt
- Line h. Mississippi recreation vehicles
- Line i. Mississippi Non-recreation vehicles
- Line j. Mississippi recreation visitor hours
- Line k. Mississippi Non-recreation visitor hours
- Line l. Mississippi recreation overnight hours
- Line m. Mississippi Non-recreation overnight hours
- Line n. Number of buses